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FAX NO. 3142314342

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IGP 1820
PATENT

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and further examination of the present application.

I. Status of the Claims

With this Amendment B, claims 1 to 25 have been canceled without prejudice to the filing of one or more divisional applications based thereon. Additionally, claims 26 to 43 have been added to more particularly claim certain preferred embodiments of the present invention. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment B, claims 26 to 43 are pending.

With reference to Applicants' published application (i.e., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 20020125594), support for the new claims presented herein may be, for example, as follows:

claims 26 and 35: paragraphs [0013], [0014], [0041], [0045] and [0047], as well as original claim 1 and previously presented claim 21;

claims 27-29, 31, 31, 36-38, 40 and 41: paragraphs [0013], [0014], [0038] and [0042];

claims 30 and 39: paragraphs [0015] and [0046]; and,

claims 33, 34, 42 and 43: original claim 8 and previously presented claim 22.

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II. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103

In view of the claim amendments presented herein, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited reference does not specifically disclose, or suggest, a synthetic wood-like sheet which comprises each and every element of the pending claims. Accordingly, reconsideration is respectfully requested of the present rejections.

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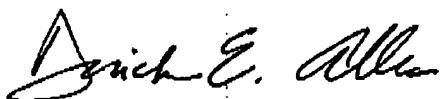
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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, favorable reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,



Derick E. Allen, Reg. No. 43,468
SENNIGER POWERS
One Metropolitan Square, 16th Floor
St. Louis, Missouri 63102
(314) 231-5400

DEA/ATY